

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111
U.S. APPLN. NO. 10/776,636

DOCKET NO. Q78976

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Please replace the sheet of drawings including Figs. 15 and 16 with the attached replacement sheet in which amendments have been made to Fig. 16.

Attachment: One (1) Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 6-34 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 27-34 have been newly added and claim 5 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. The new claims are respectfully submitted to contain no new matter.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 1, 2 and 5-26 include allowable subject matter.

Drawing Amendments

Applicant has amended Fig. 16 to shorten the filaments of the lower heater in order to clarify that the filaments of the upper heater and lower heater do not substantially overlap. The flat heat distribution shown in Fig. 17 (which the specification explains is obtained by the configuration of Fig. 16), is obtained by the filaments alternating, rather than overlapping. In contrast, Fig. 23 shows an enlarged view in which the filaments do overlap and the resulting non-flat heat distribution.

Objection to the Title

The Examiner objects to the title as not descriptive. In response, Applicant has amended the title in a manner believed to overcome the objection. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this objection.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objects to claims 1, 2, and 5-26. Applicant has amended the claims in a manner believed to overcome the objection and respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this objection.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Euler (U.S. Patent No. 4,585,325). Applicant has amended claim 4 to include most of the subject matter of claim 5 and claim 5 has been canceled. Accordingly, claim 4 is now believed to be allowable and Applicants respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

New Claims

Applicant has added new claims 27-34 in order to provide a more varied scope of protection. Claims 27-29 and 32 depend from claim 12, claim 30 depends from claim 4, claim 31 depends from claim 9, claim 33 depends from claim 20 and claim 34 depends from claim 21. Claims 27-34 are allowable at least by virtue of their respective dependencies.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


Respectfully submitted,

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